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*District Engineer***Ruben R. Robles**
*Director of Operations***Prabhakar Somavarapu**
Director of Policy and Planning

May 26, 2011

Delta Stewardship Council
980 9th Street, Suite 1500
Sacramento, CA 95814*Sent via e-mail: deltaplancomment@deltacouncil.ca.gov***Subject: Draft Water Quality Chapter of the Delta Plan**

Dear Chairman Isenberg and Council Members:

The Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District (SRCSD) appreciates the opportunity to provide input on the development of the Delta Plan. We recognize the constraints the Delta Stewardship Council (Council) is operating under to meet the legislative deadline to develop the Delta Plan. Unfortunately, these timelines are limiting the Council's and the public's ability to review and provide constructive input to create an effective Delta Plan. SRCSD is concerned that the water quality chapter of the Delta Plan has not received a sufficient level of review by the Council, the Independent Science Board, or the public. As a result, we would request that this Chapter be released to the public as soon as possible to provide additional time for analysis.

The prior three drafts of the Delta Plan have not included a water quality chapter or it has been incomplete as outlined below:

- The February 14, 2011 first staff draft of the Delta Plan did not have a water quality chapter.
- The water quality findings were released on March 9, 2011, which occurred after the February 24, and 25, 2011 Council meeting where the first staff draft of the Delta Plan was discussed.
- The March 18, 2011 second staff draft of the Delta Plan water quality chapter contained no scientific background and only one policy.
- The April 22, 2011 third staff draft Delta Plan water quality chapter was not fully discussed at the most recent Council meeting on May 12-13, 2011 due to the Delta Science Program's lead scientist, Cliff Dahm, indicating that the current draft of the water quality chapter was going to be completely rewritten, minimizing the usefulness of any discussion of the chapter.

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In speaking with Council staff, the updated version of the water quality chapter was completed on May 20, 2011. SRCSD requests the updated water quality chapter be released for public review as soon as possible (prior to the June 13th Fourth Draft Plan release date). SRCSD has been engaged in the development of the Delta Plan since its inception and has provided numerous policy related and technical comments on water quality and other issues during that time. To continue providing constructive feedback, adequate time must be allotted to review and comment on the updated water quality chapter.

We are committed to ensuring sound science is a basis for decisions regarding ecosystem protection and water supply in the Delta and look forward to providing further input to the Delta Plan as the process continues. Please call me at (916) 876-6092 or mitchellt@sacsewer.com or Linda Dorn at 916-876-6030 or dornl@sacsewer.com if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Terrie Mitchell
Manager, Legislative and Regulatory Affairs

cc: Joe Grindstaff, Executive Officer, Delta Stewardship Council
Stan Dean, District Engineer
Prabhakar Somavarapu, Director Policy and Planning
Linda Dorn, Environmental Program Manager